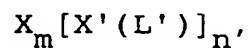


DUAL FUNCTIONING EXCIPIENT FOR METAL  
CHELATE CONTRAST AGENTS

Abstract

5           A novel dual functioning excipient for metal  
chelate contrast agents is disclosed. The present  
excipient,



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which is the calcium or zinc salt of the calcium or  
zinc complex of an organic ligand, enhances safety  
in that it is able to scavenge both free metal ions  
and free organic ligand.

15